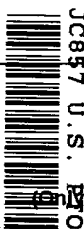


12/21/01

UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL

Form for new non-provisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Attorney Docket No.

09792909-5279

First Named Inventor or Application Identifier

Minehiro Tonosaki

Express Mail Label No: EL834556823US

10/036994
PTO
U.S. PATENT
OFFICE

12/21/01

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. ☒ Specification Total Pages 46
2. ☒ Drawing(s) (35USC 113) Total Pages 14
3. ☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney Total Pages 2
- a. ☒ Unexecuted(original or copy)
- b. ☐ Copy from prior application (37CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 14 completed)
- [Note Box 4 Below]
- i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
- ☐ Incorporation By Reference (usable if Box 3b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 3b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

5. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & documentation)
6. ☒ Letter under 37 CFR 1.41(c).
7. ☐ English Translation Document to follow (if applicable)
8. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
9. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
10. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
11. ☐ Small Entity ☐ Statement filed in prior Application, Status still proper and desired
12. ☒ Certified copy of Japanese priority document No. .P2000-394339 filed December 26, 2000.

14. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) ☐ of prior application No:

CLAIMS AS FILED

(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) BASIC FEE \$740.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	27	7	\$18.00	126.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4	1	84.00	84.00
ANY MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO			280.00	0.00
			TOTAL FEE	\$950.00

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this application, or credit any overpayment to ACCOUNT NO. 19-3140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.☒ A check in the amount of \$950.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.15. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS: Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal
P.O. Box #061080
Wacker Drive Station - Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606
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Customer ID #26263

SIGNATURE

David R. Metzger (Reg. No. 32,919)

Date: December 21, 2001

U-11



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Washington, D.C.
West Palm Beach

December 21, 2001

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RE: New U.S. Application for Letters Patent entitled
"ETCHING METHOD"
Applicant(s) Minehiro Tonosaki, et al.
Attorney Docket No. 09792909-5279

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.41(c), I am filing the attached application, including 27 claims (4 independent), 14 sheets of drawings (Figs. 1-27) and the filing fee of \$950.00 on behalf of

MINEHIRO TONOSAKI and KOJI KITAGAWA

and request that the application be assigned a serial number and filing date pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) and 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d).

Very truly yours,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

By:

David Metzger

David R. Metzger

DVM:kat
Enclosures

EXPRESS MAIL #EL834556823US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number: EL834556823US

Date of Deposit: December 21, 2001

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Box Patent Application, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Applicant(s): Minehiro Tonosaki and Koji Kitagawa

Attorney Docket No. 09792909-5279

\$950.00 filing fee (27 claims - 4 independent)


Drawings (14 sheets - Figs. 1-27)

Unexecuted Declaration

Letter Under 37 C.F.R. §1.41(c)

Certified copy of Japanese priority application No. P2000-394339

Return postcard



Signature of Person Mailing Application and Fees